

REMARKS

Restrictions in the Office Action

The Office Action of September 20, 2006, interpreted the application as containing claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions:

I: Claims 1-8; and

II: Claims 9-24.

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant respectfully elects Group I (claims 1-8), without traverse. Claims 9-24 have been canceled.

Applicant does note, however, that the MPEP requires that no such election or restriction be required, when the application can be searched and examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Applicant believed that all claims 1-24 could have been so examined in this application. Applicant understands that, by advancing this restriction, the Examiner acknowledges that any prior art used to reject the elected claims will not be used to reject claims of other group in any ensuing divisional application, because any such rejection would be tantamount to an admission that the examination of those claims could have proceeded with the current claims, with no undue burden to the Examiner.


CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that election/restriction requirement has been satisfied

without traverse. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this submission. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Daniel R. McClure
Registration No. 38,962

Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley, LLP
100 Galleria Pkwy, NW
Suite 1750
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-933-9500